THE MINISTER OF STATH IN IHE MINISTRfV OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on date, foreign private ccm-panies have dxown interest to set up 33 power projects for 21289 MW costing Rs. 69471 crores.

POWER SHORTAGE

2668. SHRI DAVID LEDGER : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to stale:

(a) the percentage *ot* overall power shertage in the country during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for such shortage; and

(c) what are the steps Government propose to take to irx-rease the eenera-tion capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V RANGAYYA NAIDU) • (a) Du:ing the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, the overall percentage of energy shortage in the country was 7.9 per cent, 7.8 per tent and 8.3 per cent respective;!/.

(b) The main reasons for power short- j age in the country were growth in demand j out-stripping the growth in generation of power, constraints of funds with power utilities *tot* capacity addition as well as for undertaking Renovation and Modernisation programme, unsatisfactory per- formance of some thermal power stations j and Atomic Power Stations etc.

(c) In order to incraase the genecating capacity in the country, it is envisaged to add 30558 MW capacity during the 8th Plan. Various other measures being taken to improve the generation in the country from the existing plants include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to Electricity Boards in undertakhig Plant. Belferment Prograsime supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal and natural fas, training of ope ration and maintenance personnel, strengthening of transmission and distri bution system.

BIDS FOR VINDMYA€HAL EXTEN-SION PROJECT

2669. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

SHRI PRAMOD MOHAJAN : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has changed its qualifying requironents for bidders for boiler contract of Rs. 1500 crores for Vindhya-chal Extension Project to accommodate Italian Power Utiliy Anasaldo and ACC Babcock Ltd.;

(b) if so. what are the reasons' for relaxation of conditions of eligibility to these two parties to enable them to bid for the contract; and

(c) the number of bids received so far from Indian and foreign parties and what ore the names and details of such putties?

THE MINISTER OF STAFF IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.,V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) Vlodhyadial Extension is a World Bank financed project and Qualification lequice-ments for it were to be fixed in consultation with the Bank. It was represented to the Bank that NTPC's Qualification requirement would exclude certain bidden. In order to generate competition, NTPC agreed with the World Bank to modify its Qualification requirements.

(c) Bids have been received for butter from *the* following parties. Indian Parties:

(i) Ms Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (ii) Ms ACC Babcock Ltd., India in Jomt Venture with Foster whether Engineering Corpn. USA.